

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A medical device having a contact surface exposed repeatedly to bodily tissue, the contact surface being coated with an effective amount of a coating comprising a silicone polymer and a non-silicone hydrophobic polymer.

2. The medical device of claim 1 wherein the coating comprises a mixture of the silicone polymer and the non-silicone hydrophobic polymer.

3. The medical device of claim 1 wherein the coating comprises an inner layer of the non-silicone hydrophobic polymer and an outer layer of the silicone polymer.

4. The medical device of claim 1 wherein the silicone polymer is a polysiloxane.

5. The medical device of claim 4 wherein the polysiloxane is a polyalkylsiloxane.

6. The medical device of claim 5 wherein the polyalkylsiloxane is a polydimethylsiloxane.

7. The medical device of claim 6 wherein the non-silicone hydrophobic polymer has a critical surface tension of less than about 50 mN/m.

8. The medical device of claim 7 wherein the non-silicone hydrophobic polymer is a thermoplastic polymer.

9. The medical device of claim 8 wherein the thermoplastic polymer is flowable at less than about 210 C.

10. The medical device of claim 9 wherein the coating has about 40 to about 86 weight percent of the polydimethylsiloxane and about 14 to about 60 weight percent of the thermoplastic polymer.

11. The medical device of claim 10 wherein the coating has about 44 to about 66 weight percent of the polydimethylsiloxane and about 34 to about 56 weight percent of the thermoplastic polymer.

12. The medical device of claim 11 wherein the medical device is a surgical needle.

13. The medical device of claim 12 wherein the polydimethylsiloxane is hydroxy terminated.

14. The medical device of claim 13 wherein the thermoplastic polymer is polyethylene, polypropylene or polycaprolactone.

15. The medical device of claim 2 wherein the coating comprises a mixture of an hydroxy terminated polydimethylsiloxane and a non-silicone hydrophobic polymer selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene and polycaprolactone.

16. The medical device of claim 15 wherein the coating mixture has about 44 to about 66 weight percent of the hydroxy terminated polydimethylsiloxane and about 34 to about 56 weight percent of the non-silicone hydrophobic polymer.

17. The medical device of claim 16 wherein the medical device is a surgical needle.